

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:COVEY

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:JOHNSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 271800

EXDIS TOSEC 102

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 271800 SENT ACTION ADDIS ABABA
INFO USCINCEUR, DECEMBER 11TH:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 271800

EXDIS MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSVIE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, ET, US

SUBJECT:US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

REFS: (A) ADDIS ABABA 14658 (B) STATE 263144 (C) STATE
269224

1. CONSISTENT WITH POLICY GUIDANCE SET FORTH REFTELS (B)
AND (C), IN RESPONSE TO ANY QUERIES FROM ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS
RE STATUS U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, CHARGE,
CHMAAG, POLITICAL COUNSELOR OR DATT MAY CONFIRM THAT USG
HAS NOT TAKEN ANY DECISION TO TERMINATE SUCH ASSISTANCE AND
HAS IN FACT CONTINUED TO PERMIT DELIVERY OF MATERIALS TO
ETHIOPIA. EMBASSY MAY CITE SHIPMENTS ABOARD ALEXANDER

STEVENS AND THUNDERBIRD AS EXAMPLES. EMBASSY MAY ALSO NOTE
THAT M 109 MTT IS BEING FURNISHED WITH ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

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TO ALLOW IT TO CONTINUE ITS TRAINING OF ETHIOPIAN MILITARY.

2. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO STRESS THAT EMBASSY SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT INITIATE CONVERSATIONS ON U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE POLICY TOWARD ETHIOPIA AND THAT ANY REPLIES TO ETHIOPIAN OFFICIAL QUERIES SHOULD BE HANDLED BY OFFICERS LISTED ABOVE. OTHER ELEMENTS OF EMBASSY STAFF ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ACT AS SPOKESMEN FOR USG POLICY AT THIS SENSITIVE TIME. IF

QUERIED RE OUR POLICY BY THEIR ETHIOPIAN CONTACTS, THEY MAY INDICATE THAT TO BEST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE DELIVERIES OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE ARE STILL BEING MADE.

3. FOREGOING LINE SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY CHARGE AND CHMAAG IN ANY CALL THEY BELIEVE NECESSARY ON NEW MINISTER OF DEFENSE. WE WOULD PREFER ANY INITIATIVES FOR SUCH MEETING TO COME FROM MINISTER. AMBASSADOR KIFLE HAS ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT IN DEPARTMENT LATER IN WEEK TO DISCUSS U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

4. FYI ONLY - UNDER PRESENT POLICY WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE EACH SCHEDULED DELIVERY AND ANY OTHER ITEM RELATED TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN LIGHT OF EXISTING SITUATION, AND WILL ENDEAVOR INFORM POST PROMPTLY OF DECISIONS. END FYI

5. FOREGOING COORDINATED WITH DEFENSE. INGERSOLL

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

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